



Baptism

OF THE

Lord

*St. Mary's Catholic Church
Hamburg, Iowa January 10, 2021*

At our baptism we were told, “you have become a new creation and have clothed yourself in Christ.” Each Sunday we come here a new creation, transformed, even if we’re not conscious of it. Baptism has created us anew, has given us new life. Also, no matter what we may be wearing, we are clothed in Christ. In what we do and what others see, we hope to show that we have put on Christ. On this feast of the Baptism of the Lord, let us appreciate the new creation we have become.

Cycle B -- Reflections on the Readings

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4,6-7; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-38; Mark 1:7-11

Theme: Baptism of the Lord



A minister was baptizing some new church members. As the first woman came up out of the water, she joyously exclaimed to the congregation, "Bless the Lord, O my Soul." The next new member after his baptism said, "The Lord is my Shepherd." A third one quoted, "who can separate me from the love of Christ." And the fourth one, too quoted the Bible and said, "I can do all things through Jesus who strengthens me." The fifth to be baptized was a timid one with little knowledge of the Bible. He was incredibly nervous before the group. As he came out of the water, he gave a wide grin to the congregation and exclaimed, "Merry Christmas, everybody."

Today, we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Jesus emerged from His thirty years of hidden life, and before beginning His public ministry, he got baptized from John the Baptist. Although Jesus is superior to John the Baptist in many ways, He still got baptized from John. Today's feast ends the Christmas season.

Decision that involves renunciation

A time of decision had arrived for Jesus. Like him all of us must make decisions, and we never have all the information we need to make them. All decisions involve renunciation. If we choose one thing, we thereby reject another. As a result of Jesus' decision to leave home, Mary will be left behind, Jesus will have nowhere to lay his head, the shadow of Calvary will haunt him, and he will have experiences of defeat and outright hostility.

The event of Baptism by the River Jordan at the hands of John the Baptist was for Jesus Christ his official commissioning. At this event, the three persons of the Trinity were present to approve the public ministry of Christ.

The Gospel of Mark links the baptism scene with the prophetic career of Jesus. Like the servant in the first reading, Jesus will accomplish his mission by reaching out to the hurting. To this end Mark shows the consequences of the baptism by showing Jesus curing the demoniac, Peter's mother-in-law, and a leper.

Our baptism is a prophetic and royal anointing. We receive the life of the Church and are called to sustain that life. We are special in the sight of God. In fact, his beloved in whom his favor rests.

The Heavenly Voice Spoke to Jesus

The heavenly display of glory at Jesus' baptism was "you are my son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased." God's voice affirmed that Jesus was His Son through supernatural conception.

St. Jerome saw the manifestation of the Holy Trinity at the baptism of Jesus. He said, "The mystery of the Trinity is shown in this baptism: The Lord is baptized; the Spirit descends in the shape of a dove; the voice of the Father is heard giving testimony to the Son."

Today's Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord is a good occasion to think again of our own Baptism, where we reject Satan and all his empty promises. Some of us might have stained our white garment, for others, our candle's light is off and nowhere to be found.

Do you remember the date of your Baptism?

Is our baptism real and alive or is it something we take for granted? My dear brothers and sisters, Baptism brings us together, may we surrender our soul to Christ, so that the Father may be well pleased with us in Jesus. Shalom!

Motivation for the week

As we journey into this New Year, remember the lesson of this story...* 📌

A little boy and his father visited the country store, and upon leaving the store, the owner of the store offered the little boy some free Sweets... "Get a hand full of Sweets", the merchant said to the boy.

The boy just stood there looking up at his father.

The owner repeated: - "Son get a hand full of Sweets... it's free."

Again, the boy did not move, continuing to look up in the face of his father.

Finally the father reached into the candy jar and got a hand full of Sweets and gave it to his son.

As they walked back home, the father stopped and asked his son why he did not grab a hand full of the free candy. The boy with a big smile on his face looked into the face of his father and said: -

"Because I know that your HAND is BIGGER than mine."



So, whatever your needs are this year, please place them in the FATHER'S HAND IN HEAVEN, because HIS HAND is BIGGER THAN YOURS.

"God and silence are great friends.
We need to listen to God, because it's not
what we say, but what He says to us
and through us that matters."

MOTHER TERESA

Do Something Beautiful for God

Airline announcement:

Welcome aboard Flight #2021. We are preparing for an on-time departure into the New Year.

Please make sure your Attitude and Actions are secured and locked in an upbeat and upright position.

All self-destructive thoughts should be turned off at this time and remain off forever. Any negativity, hate, and discouragement must remain completely stowed.

In the unlikely event we lose Altitude while under pressure, simply reach up and pull down a Prayer. Prayers will automatically activate if you have Faith. With Faith, you will be able to assist other passengers.

There will be NO BAGGAGE allowed on this flight.

Now, Captain God has cleared us for takeoff.

Our first destination is Love, with continuing stops at Peace and Joy. Before you deplane make sure you don't leave any of your Hopes and Dreams behind. Once these are lost, they cannot be reclaimed.

If there's anything we can do to make your flight more enjoyable, please do the same by paying it forward.

Have Happy New Year flight!

January, a month for fresh beginnings! and the month to try and keep those New Year's resolutions! No pressure, but it's that month of the year to look both backwards into the old year and forwards into the new one. January represents new changes, challenges and ideas that'll mark the New Year ahead of us. A bit of advice, never regret the old decisions and look forward to the new ones, isn't that what January is all about?

Campaign Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God,
Divine Architect and Cornerstone of our Salvation,
in thanksgiving for the blessings of our past; present; and future,
we pray that we may be made wise stewards of all you bestow upon us.
As we build upon our rich Catholic History as family, church, and
community,
we remember our call to build Your Kingdom in all that we do.
Help us provide a future that emulates what our savior Christ Jesus has
taught.

Open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit.
May your favor rest upon us and prosper the work of our hands.
May the Holy and Triune God be our Pillar of strength,
our inspiration and our guide in the years ahead!
Through Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Readings for the week January 10, 2021

- Sunday:** Is 42:1-4, 6-7/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 [11b]/Acts 10:34-38/Mk 1:7-11 or Is 55:1-11/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 [3]/1 Jn 5:1-9/Mk 1:7-11
- Monday:** Heb 1:1-6/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 6 and 7c, 9 [cf. 7c]/Mk 1:14-20
- Tuesday:** Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9 [cf. 7]/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday:** Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9 [8a]/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday:** Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11 [8]/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday:** Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8 [cf. 7b]/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday:** Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15 [cf. Jn 6:63c]/Mk 2:13-17
- Next Sunday:** 1 Sm 3:3b-10, 19/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10 [8a, 9a]/1 Cor 6:13c-15a, 17-20/
Jn 1:35-42

ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES
JOSH SIMMONS
JACOB ANDERSON
DERRICK HUBARD
STEVEN ANDERSON
COLBY MCGINLEY

Your Contributions

January 3, 2020

Tithes—\$1015.00

Plate—\$0

Thank You!!

Interesting January facts:

January is the considered second month of winter season and coldest month in the Northern Hemisphere.

Garnet is the birth stone of this month which represents constancy.



1-2—Mary Burkhiser
1-9-- Quentin Laumann
1-10---Tanya Hayes
1-15—Mike Moody
1-17--Jason Foster
1-18—JoElla Travis
1-20—Noah Goodman
1-23—Annie Wakefield
1-26—Mark Gude
1-26—Angie Sheldon
1-26—Kate Roberts



1-3 Harold & Anne
Hendrickson
1-4 Bob & Judy Clark



Greg Andersen
Grady Secht
Reese Kemp
LeRoy Herscheid
Noah Howe
Mary Lou Miller
Dottie Dankof
Isacc Durr
Todd Quick
Verona Mitchell
Joel Loggins
Kenneth Russell
Bill Long
Henry Johnsen
Lawrence DuBois
Pat Sheldon
Joe Kirk
Tim Konecny
Esther McCowan
Shawn Collins
Drake Travis
Martha Gude
Bill &Gloria Green
Larry Dalton
Glen Whitehead
Zayne Osborn
Cathy Mason
Anna Weber
Alan Briggs
Chuck Mitchell
Dee Ann Crews
Deb Haughton
Robert Haughton
Maurie Maher

2021	January 10 Baptism of the Lord 8:30	January 17 2nd Sunday of Ordinary time 8:30	January 24 3rd Sunday of Ordinary time 8:30	January 31 4th Sunday of Ordinary time 8:30	February 7 5th Sunday of Ordinary time 8:30
Lector	Kathleen Lorimor	Teresa Jamison	Joe Travis	Dave Dowling	Carolyn Maher
Mass Setup	Rosie	Rosie	Joe travis	Rosie	Joe travis
Cantor	Cara Goodman	Beth Phillips Anna Zavadil	Kate Roberts Cora Hirner	Beth Phillips	Cora Hirner
Accompanist	Donna Whelan	Nicole Zavadil Emily Welch Cale Phillips	Nancy Pitts	Donna Whelan	Kate Roberts
Wash Linens	Ruthie Paper	Ruthie Paper	Ruthie Paper	Ruthie Paper	Annie Wakefield

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Journey Song books—These books will be in the pews in the near future. If you have not purchased one yet in memory of a loved one or in honor of someone, please do so. Your name and that of the person will be embossed in the hymn book. Please send your request and \$25 to St. Mary's and we will develop a label to be placed inside of the book. The books will remain in the church for everyones use. These are a hard copy book with 3-year cycle readings.

